

CLAIMS

1. A face shield assembly comprising:
a protective element including an edge;
a frame mountable to a support structure and including a top portion, a bottom portion and a side portion, the frame further including:
a) an opening sized to fit the protective element, the opening defined by an upper inner edge, a lower inner edge, and side inner edges of the frame;
b) a lip spaced from the upper, lower and side inner edges so as to form a channel constructed and arranged to receive a portion of the edge of the protective element; and
wherein the frame lacks fasteners to secure the protective element, and the channel supports the protective element such that the protective element is removably attached to the frame so as to protect a user's face.

2. The face shield assembly of claim 1, wherein the frame further comprises:
c) an upper detent supported by the frame;
d) a lower detent supported by the frame; and
wherein the upper and lower detents aid in placement of the lens.

3. The face shield assembly of claim 2, wherein the upper detent is supported on approximately the center of the upper inner edge of the frame, and the lower detent is supported on approximately the center of the lower inner edge of the frame.

4. The face shield assembly of claim 1, wherein the lip includes one or more ridges that project into the channel.

5. The face shield assembly of claim 1, wherein the protective element is a lens.

6. The face shield assembly of claim 5, wherein the lens has a continuous, planar surface.

- 1 7. The face shield assembly of claim 5, wherein the lens has a continuous outer edge.
- 2 8. The face shield assembly of claim 1, wherein the frame is formed as a single, unitary
3 member.
- 1 9. The face shield assembly of claim 1, wherein the opening extends from an approximate
2 centerline of the face shield toward the edges of the face shield such that the frame does not
3 obstruct the peripheral vision of the user.
- 1 10. The face shield assembly of claim 1, further comprising a support structure constructed
2 and arranged to support the frame and adapted be worn by a user.
- 1 11. The face shield assembly of claim 10, wherein the support structure includes a mounting
2 member comprising a fixed mounting element supported on an inner surface of each side portion
3 of the frame, and a corresponding, adjustable mounting element supported on opposite sides of
4 the support structure.
- 1 12. The face shield assembly of claim 11, wherein the mounting member includes a pin that
2 is selectively engageable with at least two notches in order to restrain the face shield in one of an
3 upper or lower position.
- 1 13. The face shield assembly of claim 12, wherein the pin is supported on the fixed mounting
2 element and the at least two notches are formed in the adjustable mounting element.
- 1 14. The face shield assembly of claim 12, further comprising a pair of stops for limiting
2 movement of the face shield frame.
- 1 15. The face shield assembly of claim 11, wherein the mounting member further comprising
2 a pair of mounting holes constructed and arranged to allow the user to adjust the spacing of the
3 lens relative to the user's face.

1 16. In a face shield assembly for protecting the eyes and face of a user including a frame
2 mounted to a support structure, the improvement comprising:
3 a mounting member including a fixed mounting element supported on an inner surface of
4 each side portion of the frame, a corresponding, adjustable mounting element supported on
5 opposite sides of the support structure; a pin that is selectively engageable with at least two
6 notches in order to restrain the face shield in one of an upper or lower position; and a pair of
7 mounting holes constructed and arranged to allow the user to adjust the spacing of the lens
8 relative to the user's face

1 17. The improvement of claim 16, wherein the pin is supported on the fixed mounting
2 element and the at least two notches are formed in the adjustable mounting element.

1 18. The improvement of claim 16, further comprising a pair of stops for limiting movement
2 of the face shield frame.